

REMARKS

The Office Action dated January 11, 2008 has been received and carefully studied.

The Examiner rejects claims 1, 2 and 5-20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Tanaka et al., U.S. Patent No. 7,163,723.

Submitted herewith is an English translation of the priority document, along with a certification verifying the accuracy of the translation. The priority document antedates the effective filing date of Tanaka et al.

By the accompanying amendment, claims 2, 7 and 19 have been cancelled, and claim 5 has been amended as supported by the specification on page 13, line 2 from the bottom to page 14, line 10. Claims 6, 8, 9, 13 and 18 also have been amended. It is believed that the amended claims are supported by the priority document.

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing.

Respectfully submitted,


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